

REMARKS

With the cancellation herein without prejudice of claim 13, claims 10 to 12 and 14 to 32 are pending in the present application, since claims 1 to 9 were previously canceled. It is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 12, 14 to 16, 18, 29, 31, and 32 are allowed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 10, 23 to 28, and 30 are allowable. In this regard, the Examiner will note that each of claims 10 (from which claims 23 to 28 ultimately depend) and 30 has been rewritten in independent form and to include the subject matter of its base claim. The Examiner will further note that each of claims 11, 17, and 19 has been amended so that claims 11, 17, and 19 to 22 ultimately depend from claim 30. Therefore, all of claims 10, 11, 17, 19 to 28, and 30 are in condition for immediate allowance.

The remaining rejected claim has been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby obviating the remaining claim rejections.

Accordingly, all of pending claims 10 to 12 and 14 to 32 are in condition for immediate allowance.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the claims as originally and/or previously presented in a continuation patent application. Further, any disclaimer that may have occurred during the prosecution of this application is expressly rescinded as regards any subsequently filed patent application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of pending claims 10 to 12 and 14 to 32 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objections and rejections be withdrawn. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: /Aaron Grunberger/
Aaron Grunberger (Reg. No. 59,210) for:
Gerard A. Messina (Reg. No. 35,952)

KENYON & KENYON LLP
One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200
CUSTOMER NO 26646